(b) if so, what steps have been taken to correct the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have taken various steps of which mention could be made of the following:

— Intensive monitoring of projects by the Ministry of Programme Implementation through monthly/quarterly monitoring system;

— Setting up of Task Force/Empowered Committees for problem solving and speedy implementaiton of projects;

— Indepth periodical review of progress of projects by administrative Ministries and constant pressure on project authorities for expeditious completion;

— Close follow-up by concerned Ministries and project authorities with State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays;

— Inter-ministerial coordination and interaction;

— Issue of directions for ensuring continuity of tenure of project head until the completion of project and 2—3 years beyond to ensure accountability for implementation.

Defence collaboration with U.S.A.

2055. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for defence collaboration with U.S.A. and her western allies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) It is proposed to expand defence cooperation along the lines which have already been established in working together with the United States of America on certain Defence related technologies, such as Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Project. It is also proposed to explore and identify other areas of Defence cooperation. It will not be in the national interest to disclose further details.

Allocation of amount for economic development in West Bengal

2056. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2009 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th November, 1987 and state:

(a) the amount of money promised by the Prime Minister in September, 1986 for West Bengal for the economic development of the State:

(b) the breakup of such financial assistances under each head; and

(c) how far these promises or assurances have since been implemented till date?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) A Statement is enclosed, as annexure. (*See* Appendix CXLVII, Annexure No. 85)

XMP—14 Super Computer

2057. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question No. 1057 given in Rajya Sabha on the 3rd March, 1988 and state:

(a) whether the commercial negotiations with the manufacturers of XMP-14 Super Computer have since been completed;

(b) whether all arrangements regarding the purchase of the super computer have since been finalised; and

(c) if so, the details of the arrangements?